

**Application No.10/026,413**  
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**Amendment**  
**Attorney Docket No. S63.2-10234**

**Remarks**

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 13, 2004. Applicant provisionally elects from group a: species i, which is directed to the connector configuration of FIG. 2; and from group b: species i, which is directed to the trough configuration illustrated in FIG. 1. Claims 1-6 and 9-24 correspond to the elected species.

Applicant traverses the restriction however, at least in regard to the election of group b. Upon review of the embodiment depicted in FIG. 1 it is apparent that depending on which adjacent troughs (that point away from one another in a given band) are viewed, the stent shown employs adjacent bent troughs that point away from one another and are separated by at least one shorter trough *as well as* adjacent bent troughs that point away from one another and are *not* separated by at least one shorter trough. Because both species may be considered to be present in a single embodiment of the invention, Applicant asserts that the required election of the species is not appropriate.

Applicant notes that the disclosure of the Application includes additional embodiments of the invention which may not be represented by the identified species.

In addition to the above, Applicant has amended claims 19-21 to correct the recited claim dependency.

Respectfully submitted,

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